

**Cherokee County Department of Social Services**

**Board of Directors**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**September 22, 2020**

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Cherokee County Department of Social Services was duly called and held on September 22, 2020, at 6:32 P.M., at 4800 West Highway 64, Murphy, NC 28906.

**Present were:**

Roy Dickey, Chair

Cal Stiles, Member

Gary Westmoreland, Member

Dan Eichenbaum, Member

CB McKinnon, Member

**Staff present were:**

Amanda Tanner-McGee, DSS Director

Andria Duncan, DSS Attorney

Mr. Dickey called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M., and Amanda Rhodes, Clerk to the Board recorded the minutes.

**II. Adoption of the Agenda**

Mr. Stiles made a motion to adopt the agenda, with Mr. McKinnon seconding the motion, with a unanimous vote, the Board approved the agenda.

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

**August 24, 2020**

Mr. McKinnon made a motion to accept, Mr. Stiles seconding the motion, with a unanimous vote the Board approved the August 24, 2020 DSS Board meeting minutes.

### **IV. Public Forum**

There was no Board or public comments or questions.

### **V. Approval of DSS Statewide Association Dues**

Mr. Stiles made a motion to approve the DSS Statewide Association dues, Mr. Dickey seconded the motion and all in favor of paying the DSS Statewide Association dues.

### **VI. Director's Report**

Director McGee provided the Board with the Director's Report.

#### **A. CCDSS Foster Care Initiative Update**

Director McGee provided the Board with an update regarding the Cherokee County DSS Foster Care Initiative. The Foster Care Initiative is moving forward with assistance from VAYA and CCDSS is in the process of evaluating current foster care children that are placed outside of Cherokee County that will be provided the High Fidelity Wrap around services to move them closer to Cherokee County. This program will be beneficial to not only the foster children, but the foster parents as well.

Director McGee also discussed the Family Services Protection Act (FFSPA) which seeks to reduce the number of foster children in group homes as well as minimizing the time they reside in group homes. The FFSPA also emphasizes the importance of having a foster child remain in a family-like setting and continue to receive therapeutic services. CCDSS has also recently hired a Foster Care Licensing social worker to recruit families and provide trainings to those who are interested in becoming a foster parent.

**B. Statistical Report**

Director McGee provided the Board with the August 2020 Statistical Report.

**VII. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M. with Mr. Stiles making a motion to adjourn, Mr. McKinnon seconding the motion, and all in favor.

**\*\* Minutes were approved at the October 20, 2020 Board Meeting\*\***